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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas M. Jessell et al.

Serial No.: 09/654,462

Group Art Unit: 1632

Filed : September 1, 2000

Examiner: A. Baker

For : GENETIC DEMONSTRATION OF REQUIREMENT FOR NKX6.1 AND
NKX2.2 IN VENTRAL NEURON GENERATION

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
March 4, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Amendment In Response
To December 4, 2002 Office Action

This Amendment is submitted in response to a December 4, 2002 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the December 4, 2002 Office Action is due March 4, 2003. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 2 as follows:

--1. (Amended) A method of converting a neural stem cell into a ventral neuron which comprises introducing into the neural stem cell a nucleic acid which expresses homeodomain transcription factor Nkx6.1 protein in the stem cell so as to

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